

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 19, 2010

E. CURTIS AMBLER ROOM

These minutes are not verbatim, but represent a summary of major statements and comments. For minutes verbatim, refer to audiotape on file in the Office of the Town Clerk. Audiotapes are retained for the minimum period required under the retention schedule as provided under Connecticut Law.

Chairman Pappa called the roll call at 7:05 p.m. and noted Commissioners Beyer, Block, Forte, Igielski and Shapiro were present. Also present were Alternates Harlow, Turgeon and Zelek and Mr. Anthony Ferraro, Town Engineer.

NOTE: Chairman Pappa designated that Alternate Turgeon would vote for Commissioner Longo.

ITEM III
ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting of December 15, 2009

Commissioner Byer noted that her name Byer (Beyer) was misspelled throughout the minutes.

Mr. Ferraro noted on Page 1 that under the roll call a comma should have been placed between Igielski and Longo.

Mr. Ferraro noted on the bottom of Page 3, the remark by Alternate Zelek should read "Alternate Zelek asked (ask) what would.....about 45 feet."

NOTE: Alternate Zelek noted on the bottom of Page 3, the response to his question as to the distance between the existing house and proposed new bank building should be 35 (45) feet. A review of the site plan showed the distance to be 45 feet.

Motion made by Commissioner Byer to accept the minutes as corrected and was seconded by Commissioner Igielski. There was no discussion. Vote was 7 yes, 0 no and the motion was carried.

ITEM IV
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: NONE

ITEM V A (Public Hearing)
Inland and Watercourses Regulations-Revisions

Mr. Ferraro read the “Legal Notice”, which appeared in the Hartford Courant on January 5, 2010 and January 12, 2010, into the record.

Chairman Pappa noted that there was no member of the public present in attendance at the meeting.

Motion made by Commissioner Shapiro to close the public hearing and was seconded by Commissioner Block. There was no discussion. Vote was 7 yes, 0 no and the motion was carried.

ITEM VI A

Election of Officers (Vice-Chairman)

Motion made by Commissioner Shapiro to place in nomination the name of Philip Block and was seconded by Commissioner Byer.

Motion made by Chairman Pappa to place in nomination the name of Commissioner Igielski and was seconded by Commissioner Forte

Motion made by Commissioner Igielski to close the nominations and was seconded by Commissioner Forte.

Vote was 3 for Commissioner Block (Beyer, Block and Shapiro) and 4 for Commissioner Igielski (Forte, Igielski, Pappa and Turgeon) and Commissioner Igielski was elected Vice-Chairman.

ITEM VI B

Connecticut Environmental Review Team (Team)

Chairman Pappa noted that he did some research on the subject matter following last month’s meeting and entered the following remarks into the record:

- A. The Team did work in Newington in 1992.
- B. If the Commission is inclined to use the services of the Team, it would have to act in a speedy manner. Current areas of interest to the Town include Cedar Mountain a major issue and other areas of interest.
- C. Commission should be ready to move forward to assist the “Open Space Committee” of the Town Council.

Commissioner Block suggested that a motion be made that the Open Space Committee be the agency to make initial contact (with the Team).

Alternate Harlow noted that only the Chairperson of the Conservation Commission, TP&Z Commission and the Board of Parks & Recreation can initiate contact.

Motion made by Commissioner Block to recommend to the Open Space Committee (of the Town Council) that at the earliest opportunity to engage the services of the (Connecticut Environmental Review) Team on a possible scope of work dealing with one or more than one (assignment) and was seconded by Alternate Turgeon.

NOTE: There was a general discussion among Commission members on what might be covered (by the Committee).

Vote was 7 yes, 0 no and the motion was carried.

ITEM VII A

Application 2009-14, 1268 Main Street

Mr. Anthony Ferraro, Town Engineer, noted that following the submission (of the application), a list of comments was provided by him to the applicant that resulted in revisions to the site plan. The Plan was not ready for tonight's meeting and the 35 day limit for acting on the application would not extend to the February meeting. The applicant has submitted a letter to the Commission granting a 35 day extension.

Mr. Ferraro noted a major comment related to the concentration of the out flow of surface run off from the property (being proposed for development) through a plunge pool (located at the southeast corner of the property). The plan is being revised to show a redirection of the flow to the north into the existing storm water conduit system on the abutting property that outlets into an existing (conduit) system of adequate capacity located on the abutting property to the east.

Alternate Zelek asked the following questions:

- A. The lot is low. Will it (lot) require filling? Mr. Ferraro responded yes. A small retaining wall would be installed (along the southerly property line) and fill material placed behind it.
- B. Is there wetland soil on the property? Mr. Ferraro responded no per the Town Map.
- C. Can the Commission request that a soil sample be taken to check for the existence of a wetland (on the property)? Mr. Ferraro responded yes.

Commissioner Block asked if there was sufficient information to require the applicant to check the site (for a wetland)? Mr. Ferraro noted it is a practice to accept the soil type(s) (shown on the Town Map), unless it is evident that changes have been made (in the field), there should not be a concern. However, the Commission has the right to ask.

Motion made by Commissioner Block to table the item over to the February meeting and was seconded by Commissioner Igiefski. There was no discussion. Vote was 7yes, 0 no and the motion was carried.

ITEM VII B

Inland and Watercourses Regulations-Revisions

Mr. Ferraro noted that unless there is a concern (from a Commission member), the updated Regulations can be forwarded to the Town Council.

Commissioner Igielski noted that the Town Attorney was requested to appear at tonight's meeting.

Mr. Ferraro responded that he sent an e-mail to the Town Attorney. The Town Attorney responded with an e-mail, a copy of which was included in the agenda package.

Motion made by Commissioner Igielski to accept the November 17, (2009) changes (revisions) to the Regulations and forward said changes (revisions) to the Town Council for appropriate action and was seconded by Commissioner Shapiro. There was no discussion. Vote was 7 yes, 0 no and the motion was carried.

ITEM VII

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: NONE

ITEM VIII

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

Alternate Harlow said he had heard that revisions had been made to the "Town (of Newington) Flood (Insurance) Maps". Mr. Ferraro noted there was a one (1) foot increase in flood elevation (on paper) due to a change in the base (flood) elevation. However, there is no actual change in the final water surface elevation.

Motion made by Commissioner Igielski to adjourn meeting at 7:50 p.m. and was seconded by Commissioner Block. There was no discussion. Vote was 7 yes, 0 no and motion was carried.

Peter M. Arburr, Recording Secretary

Commission Members

Tayna Lane, Town Clerk

Town Manager John Salamone

Edmund Meehan, Town Planner

Councilor Myra Cohen

Chairperson, Town Plan and Zoning Commission

Anthony Ferraro, Town Engineer

Ben Ancona Jr., Esquire, Town Attorney

Lucy Robbins Wells Library (2)

